

very fine keels or striae. Tail, twice the length of the body. Toes, elongate and unequal. Colour, above uniform brown, beneath yellowish white.

Length, 16 inches.

Several specimens were procured at Darnley Island.

26.—EUPREPIS SUBMETALLICUS.

Body and head, flat; supra-nasal plates distinct; fronto-nasals not contiguous; supraorbitals and fronto-parietal, as in the last species. No interparietal. Fifth upper labial largest. Ear openings small, oval, and slightly denticulated in front. Scales, indistinctly tricarinated, those on the back in 8 or 10 series. Toes, elongate. Tail, not longer than the body. Colour, above, bronzy green, mottled with black, and with a broad black mark along each side, immediately beneath a light streak, which extends from the muzzle above the eye; beneath, greenish white.

Length, about 7 inches.

One specimen, from Hall Sound.

27.—EUPREPIS SIMILIMUS.

In the shape of the head, and disposition of the plates, this species resembles *Euprepis longicaudis*, excepting that the fronto-nasals are not contiguous, and the supraorbital regions are more elevated. Ear openings oval, and denticulated in front. Legs, long and slender; toes, elongate. Tail, about twice the length of the body. Scales, very indistinctly keeled or striated. General form, long, and very slender. Colour, above mottled greenish brown, beneath blueish white, with black spots on the sides of the head and body, and on the feet.

Length, 8 inches.

One specimen from Katow.

Note on *Monacanthus Cheverti*, Alleyne and M'Leay.

By W. MACLEAY, F.L.S.

In the proceedings of this Society, vol. 1, page 335, Dr. Alleyne and I, in a joint paper, on the Fishes taken during the

voyage of the Chevert, described and figured under the name of *Monacanthus Cheverti*, a fish which we believed to have been up to that time undescribed. We mentioned at the time that, with the exception of there being no trace of the third dorsal spine—the chief distinguishing feature of the genus *Balistes*—the Fish seemed to be identical with *Balistes aculeatus*, Linn. It turns out that the absence of the spine in our specimen must have been the result of accident, as a few days ago Mr. Masters pointed out to me specimens of the same Fish from the Endeavour River, in which the third spine was distinctly visible. The proper name of the fish is therefore *Balistes aculeatus*, and *Monacanthus Cheverti* must sink into a synonym.

Some further remarks on POËPHILA *Gouldiæ* and POËPHILA
MIRABILIS (*Homb. et Jacq*)

By E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., &c., Curator of the Australian Museum,
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In my last note on this species (P.L.S. of N.S.W., vol. I, pt. iii, p. 281), I mentioned that, on account of the *black-headed* (*P. gouldiæ*) and the *crimson-headed* birds (*P. mirabilis*) having been found breeding together, I was wont to consider the *former*, *females* of the latter, and that both were of the same species. Further investigations, however, have caused me to modify my views on this subject, and to speak with more confidence in the matter. I find now that birds, undoubtedly males, having black heads, have been found breeding with similarly coloured females, and crimson-headed males, with females also crimson-headed, as has been previously pointed out by Mr. Gould.* This, however, does not prove them to be distinct species, as we well know that many birds breed in comparatively speaking immature plumage, and others again take years before they attain the livery of the fully adult birds. This I believe to be the case in the present instance. The young birds of the first year at least, have the plumage dull brown, with an indication of a pectoral band. As they become older, the *head*

*Gould's Handbook, 1 p. 422.